

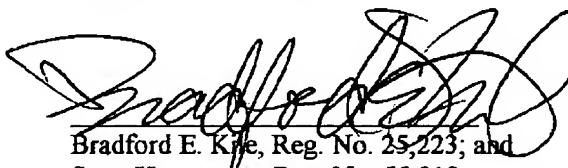
Appl. No. 10/725,487
Amdt. Dated August 12, 2004
Reply to Office Action mailed March 12, 2004

REMARKS

Claims 1-16 have been canceled without prejudice, in the interests of expediting prosecution. The subject matter of claims 8, 9, 12, 14 and 15—previously indicated as allowable if rewritten in independent form—are rewritten as claims 17-21 by this amendment. Thus, all pending claims are now in clear condition for allowance.

If the Examiner believes a telephone interview would be either necessary or desirable, kindly call either of the undersigned at the number indicated. If additional fees are required, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees to deposit account number 11-0853.

Respectfully submitted,



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